# Police Accountability CB 118907 Structural Framework

Amy Tsai

Council Central Staff

February 22, 2017, GESCNA Committee



#### **Building Public Trust in Police**

Lack of Community Trust DOJ Investigation (2011)

Consent Decree (2012)

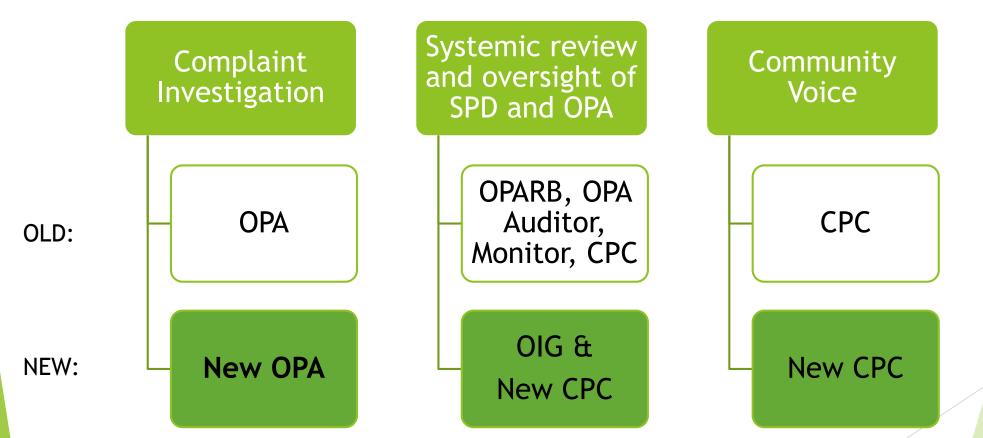
CB 118907 (2017)

▶ Because the police are granted extraordinary power, and civilian oversight of police is critically important to enhancing the trust, respect, and confidence of the community, it is the City of Seattle's intent to ensure by law a comprehensive, independent, and sustained approach to civilian oversight of the Seattle Police Department (SPD). The purpose of this Chapter 3.29 is to provide the authority necessary for that oversight to be as effective as possible.

Civilian oversight of SPD shall be comprised of:

- ▶ an Office of Police Accountability (OPA) to handle complaints of misconduct,
- ▶ an Office of Inspector General (OIG) to provide systemic oversight of the management, practices, and policies of SPD and OPA, and
- ▶ a Community Police Commission (CPC) to provide community input to ensure that police services are delivered in a lawful and nondiscriminatory manner and are aligned with community values and expectations.

### Accountability Institution Roles - Now and looking forward



Civilian oversight of SPD shall be comprised of:

▶ an Office of Police Accountability (OPA) to handle complaints of misconduct Office of Professional/Police Accountability



Review and Classification

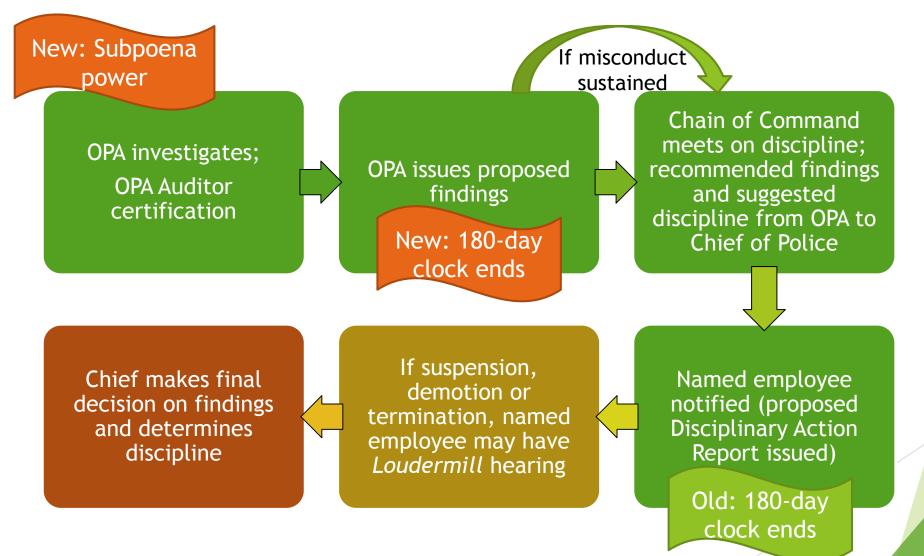
 OPA Administrative Investigation

- Supervisor Action referral
- Mediation referral
- Criminal investigation referral
- New: Rapid Adjudication

Old: Sworn supervisors and investigators

New: Civilian supervisors and civilian or mixed investigators

#### **OPA Administrative Investigation**



▶ an Office of Inspector General (OIG) to provide systemic oversight of the management, practices, and policies of SPD and OPA

#### Office of Inspector General Functions: Auditing and Systemic Review of OPA & SPD

- Review classifications and other referrals
- Review and certify misconduct cases as complete (thorough, timely, and objective)



- Conduct audits of OPA and SPD
- Issue recommendations on systemic problems identified in audits and incident review

▶ a Community Police Commission (CPC) to provide community input to ensure that police services are delivered in a lawful and nondiscriminatory manner and are aligned with community values and expectations.

#### Community Police Commission Functions: Community Voice and Systemic/Policy Review

#### Community Voice

- Community engagement by CPC
- Review community engagement of SPD
- Assist entities with communications and outreach

#### Systemic Review

- ► Continued responsibilities under consent decree
- ► Review and provide input on SPD policies
- ► Provide systemic recommendations
- ► Monitor implementation of OPA, OIG and CPC recommendations

#### **Themes**

- ► Roles and Relationships between the Entities
  - Duties, Powers Recommendations and Reporting
  - ► CPC Membership Qualifications, Residency
- Independence
  - ► Appointments & Removal (OPA, OIG, CPC, CPC ED)
  - ► Terms
  - Budget
- System Improvements
  - Staffing (Civilianization)
  - Investigations (Timelines, Standard of proof)
  - ▶ Disciplinary, appeal and grievance processes



### LA Study Mission

February 9 & 10, 2017